



MANY STORIES, ONE PEOPLE

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North Carolina Humanities Council Selects New Board Chair

GREENSBORO, NC (October 19, 2009) – Townsend Ludington of Chapel Hill has been elected chair of the board of the North Carolina Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. He assumes leadership from Lynn Jones Ennis, who joined the board as a gubernatorial appointee in 2002 and served as chair from October 2005 to September 2009.

Ludington says, “It is an honor to serve as Chair of the North Carolina Humanities Council, whose board and staff are committed to transforming lives and communities through new reflections and new visions. With a recently approved strategic plan in place, the Council intends to continue expanding the grant programs it supports throughout North Carolina.”

Ludington is the Boshamer Distinguished Professor Emeritus of American Studies and English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he taught from 1966-2004. Upon his retirement the Townsend Ludington Professorship in American Studies was established at the university. He directed its American Studies program from 1968-1971 and 1986-2001. In the late 1960s, Ludington participated in the creation of the African American Studies Program and was instrumental in launching a Native American Studies program, now housed in American Studies.

Ludington is the author or editor of eleven books about American literature, art, and culture. Among them are the biographies *John Dos Passos: A Twentieth-Century Odyssey*, which won a North Carolina Mayflower Award, and *Marsden Hartley: The Biography of an American Artist*. In 2007 one of his essays received honorable mention for a Pushcart Prize.

Ludington taught in France on a Fulbright Lectureship; he has also taught in Spain, Germany, and other countries. He has directed two National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institutes and served as Resident Scholar in American Studies for the U.S. International Communications Agency. In 1985-86 he had a fellowship at the National Humanities Center in the Research Triangle Park.

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About the North Carolina Humanities Council

The North Carolina Humanities Council is a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The North Carolina Humanities Council serves as an advocate

NORTH CAROLINA HUMANITIES COUNCIL MANY STORIES, ONE PEOPLE

for lifelong learning and thoughtful dialogue about all facets of human life. It facilitates the exploration and celebration of the many voices and stories of North Carolina's cultures and heritage. The Humanities Council supports through grants and public programs vital conversations that nurture the cultures and heritage of North Carolina. In addition to **grants** and **publications**, the Council offers the **Road Scholars** speakers bureau; the **Let's Talk About It** library discussion series; the 2010 traveling exhibition **Museum on Main Street**, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution, state humanities councils nationwide, and rural communities statewide; and the **Teachers Institute**, a professional development program for the state's public school teachers. To learn more about the North Carolina Humanities Council, visit www.nchumanities.org.